

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2695
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008
UNDP REPORT ON CORRUPTION
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has revealed that corruption smothers opportunities for the most vulnerable people, limiting their areas to education and compromised basic health services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS .(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a)&(b): The United Nations Development Programme's Asia Pacific Human Development Report, 'Tackling Corruption, Transforming Lives, 2008', relates to tackling corruption in areas that can improve daily lives, particularly of the poor. The Report has highlighted that for accelerating Human Development in Asia and the Pacific there is need for improving justice systems, preventing misuse of region's abundant natural resources and ensuring the effective delivery of Public Services, such as clean water, energy, health and education that touch people everyday, thus improving daily life particularly of the poor. The Report provides a coherent, comprehensive vision for tackling the problem of corruption in the Asia-Pacific region and proposes interventions that add to a concerted, robust response.

(c): Government is aware of the menace of corruption and is fully committed to implement its policy of 'Zero Tolerance against Corruption' and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. Important among these steps are:-

(i) Enactment of Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003;

(ii) Enactment of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(iii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iv) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance;

(v) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;

(vi) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt integrity pact in major Government procurement activities; and

(vii) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Government organizations are also constantly engaged in improving their functioning through e-Governance, issue of Citizen Charters and simplification of procedures and systems, which are aimed at eradicating corruption by improving transparency and accountability.